

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended): A formulation for topical applications comprising: pigment particles obtainable by agitating a suspension comprising one or more inorganic pigments and silver oxide, in order to reduce undesirable side-effects caused by microorganisms, wherein said pigment particles with silver oxide are prepared by agitating said suspension at a temperature between 10°C and 60°C; and  
one or more cosmetically or dermatologically suitable vehicles.
2. (Previously Presented): A formulation according to claim 1, wherein said undesirable side effects caused by microorganisms are dandruffs, acne and/or malodour.
3. (Currently Amended): A formulation according to claim 1, wherein said formulation is in the form of a solution, suspension, emulsion, paste ~~pasta~~, ointment, gel, cream, lotion, powder, oil, pencil, deodorant-cream, deodorant gel, deodorant lotion, deodorant emulsion, deodorant stick, roll-on deodorant, deodorant spray, deodorant pump spray, or lacquer.
4. (Previously Presented): A formulation according to claim 1, wherein said formulation comprises at least one compound selected from suitable substrates for microorganisms.
5. (Currently Amended): A formulation according to claim 4, wherein said at least one compound is an alkane, an alkene, an alkyne, a sugar, a polyol, an alcohol, a saturated or unsaturated carboxylic acid, a protein, an amino acid, water, a fatty acid, a wax, a fat, a mineral oil, a salt, a hormone, a steroid, or a vitamin ~~selected from alkanes, alkenes, alkynes, with or without functional groups, sugars, polyols, alcohols, saturated or unsaturated carboxylic acids, proteins, amino acids, water, fatty acids, waxes, fats, mineral oils, salts, hormones, steroids, vitamins, and derivatives or salts thereof.~~

6. (Currently Amended): A formulation according to claim 1, wherein said the inorganic pigment particles are platelet-shaped, spherical or needle-shaped.

7. (Currently Amended): A formulation according to claim 1, said inorganic pigment is ~~selected from an~~ inorganic white pigment pigments, an inorganic coloured pigment pigments, an inorganic black pigment pigments, an effect pigment pigments, a luminous pigment pigments, magnesium carbonate, mica, SiO<sub>2</sub>, TiO<sub>2</sub>, aluminium oxide, glass, micaceous iron oxide, oxidized ~~oxidised~~ graphite, aluminium oxide-coated graphite, basic lead carbonate, barium sulphate, chromium oxide, or ~~and~~ MgO.

8. (Previously Presented): A formulation according to claim 7, wherein said effect pigments are based on substrates.

9. (Currently Amended): A formulation according to claim 8, wherein the substrates of said effect pigments are ~~selected from~~ natural mica, synthetic mica, SiO<sub>2</sub>, TiO<sub>2</sub>, BiOCl, Aluminium oxide, glass, micaceous iron oxide, graphite, oxidized graphite, aluminium oxide coated graphite, basic lead carbonate, barium sulphate, chromium oxide, BN, MgO, magnesium fluoride, Si<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub>, or ~~and~~ metals.

10. (Previously Presented): A formulation according to claim 9, wherein the substrates of said effect pigments additionally are coated with one or more layers of BiOCl and/or transparent, semitransparent or opaque, selectively absorbing, nonselectively absorbing or nonabsorbing metal oxides, metal suboxides, metal oxide hydrates, metals, metal nitrides, metal oxynitrides, metal fluorides, and/or mixtures of these materials.

11. (Previously Presented): A formulation according to claim 10, wherein said one or more layers of BiOCl and/or transparent, semitransparent or opaque, selectively absorbing, nonselectively absorbing or nonabsorbing metal oxides, metal suboxides, metal oxide hydrates, metals, metal nitrides, metal oxynitrides, metal fluorides, and/or mixtures of these materials, are arranged as alternating layers of:

transparent, semitransparent or opaque, selectively absorbing, nonselectively absorbing

or nonabsorbing metal oxides, metal suboxides, metal oxide hydrates, metals, metal nitrides, metal oxynitrides, metal fluorides and/or mixtures of these materials or BiOCl with a refractive index  $n > 1.8$ , and

transparent, semitransparent or opaque, selectively absorbing, nonselectively absorbing or nonabsorbing metal oxides, metal suboxides, metal oxide hydrates, metals, metal nitrides, metal oxynitrides, metal fluorides and/or mixtures of these materials with a refractive index  $n < 1.8$ .

12. (Currently Amended): A formulation according to claim 10, wherein the outer layer of the inorganic pigment comprises a material which is a selected from transparent, semitransparent or opaque, selectively absorbing, nonselectively absorbing or nonabsorbing metal oxide, metal suboxide, metal oxide hydrate, or ~~and~~ mixture of these materials.

13. (Currently Amended): A formulation according to claim 10, wherein said one or more layers of ~~the~~ transparent, semitransparent or opaque, selectively absorbing, nonselectively absorbing or nonabsorbing metal oxides, metal suboxides, metal oxide hydrates, metals, metal nitrides, metal oxynitrides, metal fluorides and/or mixtures of these materials additionally contain organic and/or inorganic colorants or elements as dopant.

14. (Currently Amended): A formulation according to claim 1, wherein said inorganic pigment comprises spherical particles or spherical capsules of metal oxides, BiOCl, magnesium carbonate, graphite, oxidized graphite, aluminium oxide-coated graphite, basic lead carbonate, barium sulphate, BN, magnesium fluoride,  $\text{Si}_3\text{N}_4$ , ~~and/or~~ metals, or combinations thereof.

15. (Currently Amended): A formulation according to claim 14, wherein said spherical particles or capsules are coated with one or more layers of transparent, semitransparent or opaque, selectively absorbing, nonselectively absorbing or nonabsorbing metal oxides, metal suboxides, metal oxide hydrates, metals, metal nitrides, metal oxynitrides, metal fluorides, and/or mixtures of these materials.

16. (Previously Presented): A formulation according to claim 1, wherein said

inorganic pigments are additionally coated with a protective coating layer.

17. (Currently Amended): A formulation according to claim 16, wherein said protective coating is made of ~~selected from~~ silica, silicates, borosilicates, aluminosilicates, alumina, aluminum phosphate, or mixtures thereof.

18. (Previously Presented): A formulation according to claim 1, wherein said silver oxide is substituted by silver halogenide, silver nitrate, silver sulfate, silver carboxylates, silver carbonate, silver citrate, copper oxides, copper sulfide, copper nitrate, copper carbonate, copper sulfate, copper halogenides, copper carboxylates, zinc oxide, zinc sulfide, zinc silicate, zinc acetate, zinc chloride, zinc nitrate, zinc sulfate, zinc gluconate, zinc citrate, zinc phosphate, zinc propionate, zinc salicylate, zinc lactate, zinc oxalate, zinc iodate, zinc iodide or combinations thereof.

19. (Previously Presented): A formulation according to claim 18, wherein said formulation additionally comprises preservatives and antimicrobial agents.

20. (Currently Amended): A formulation according to claim 1, wherein said formulation additionally comprise at least one antibiotic ~~antibiotics~~.

21. (Currently Amended): A formulation according to claim 20, wherein said at least one antibiotic is ~~antibiotics are selected~~ Beta-lactam, Vancomycin, a Macrolide, a Tetracycline, a Quinolone, a Fluoroquinolone, a Nitrated compound, an Aminoglycoside, a Phenicol, a Lincosamid, a Synergistin, Fosfomycin, Fusidic acid, an oxazolidinone, a Rifamycin, a Polymixyne, a Gramicidin, Tyrocydine, a Glycopeptide, a Sulfonamide, or a Trimethoprim. ~~Macrolides, Tetracyclines, Quinolones, Fluoroquinolones, Nitrated compounds, Aminoglycosides, Phenicols, Lincosamids, Synergistins, Fosfomycin, Fusidic acid, oxazolidinones, Rifamycins, Polymixynes, Gramicidins, Tyrocydine, Glycopeptides, Sulfonamides, and Trimethoprim~~

22. (Currently Amended): A formulation according to claim 21, wherein said formulation additionally comprises ~~comprise~~ one or more UV filters.

23. (Previously Presented): A formulation according to claim 1, wherein said formulation additionally comprise at least one self-tanning agent.

24. (Previously Presented): A formulation according to claim 1, wherein said formulation additionally comprise dyes and coloured pigments.

25. (Previously Presented): A formulation according to claim 1, wherein said formulation additionally comprise at least one antioxidant.

26. (Previously Presented): A formulation according to claim 1, wherein said formulation additionally comprise vitamins.

27. (Previously Presented): A formulation according to claim 1, wherein said formulation additionally comprise skin-protecting or skin-care active ingredients.

28. (Currently Amended): A formulation according to claim 1, wherein said formulation additionally comprise at least one ~~on~~ photostabiliser.

29. (Currently Amended): A process for the preparation of a formulation according to claim 1, comprising:

agitating a suspension comprising one or more inorganic pigments and silver oxide,  
and

mixing the pigment a) with one or more cosmetically or dermatologically suitable vehicles ~~further ingredients suitable for the formulation.~~

30. (Previously Presented): A method for the prophylaxis and/or treatment of acne, comprising applying to skin a formulation according to claim 1.

31. (Previously Presented): A method for the prophylaxis and/or treatment of dandruffs, comprising applying a formulation according to claim 1.

32. (Previously Presented): A method for the prophylaxis and/or treatment of malodour, comprising applying a formulation according to claim 1.

33. (Currently Amended): A formulation according to claim 1, wherein said formulation is in the form of a cream which further comprises at least one customary excipient, and said at least one customary excipient is an animal fat, vegetable fat, wax, paraffin, starch, tragacanth, polyethylene glycol, silicone, bentonite, silica, talc, or zinc oxide ~~selected from animal and vegetable fats, waxes, paraffins, starch, tragacanth, cellulose derivatives, polyethylene glycols, silicones, bentonites, silica, talc and zinc oxide, and mixtures thereof.~~

34. (New): A formulation according to claim 1, wherein said pigment particles with silver oxide are prepared by agitating said suspension at a temperature between 20 and 45°C.

35. (New): A formulation according to claim 1, wherein said pigment particles with silver oxide are prepared by agitating said suspension from 4 up to 24 hours.

36. (New): A formulation according to claim 1, wherein said pigment particles with silver oxide are prepared by agitating said suspension from 8 to 20 hours.

37. (New): A formulation according to claim 1, wherein said pigment particles with silver oxide are prepared by agitating said suspension from 10 to 18 hours.

38. (New): A formulation according to claim 1, wherein the amount of said antimicrobial compound is 0.001 to 10% by weight, based on the total weight of the inorganic pigment.

39. (New): A formulation according to claim 1, wherein the amount of said antimicrobial compound is 0.005 to 5% by weight, based on the total weight of the inorganic pigment.

40. (New): A formulation according to claim 1, wherein the amount of said antimicrobial compound is 0.01 to 0.5% by weight, based on the total weight of the inorganic pigment.

41. (New): A formulation according to claim 1, wherein the Hunter model L, a and b values of said pigment particles with silver oxide are:  $-6 \leq \Delta L \leq 6$ ,  $-5 \leq \Delta a \leq 5$ , and  $-5 \leq \Delta b \leq 5$ .

42. (New): A formulation according to claim 1, wherein the Hunter model L, a and b values of said pigment particles with silver oxide are:  $-4 \leq \Delta L \leq 4$ ,  $-3 \leq \Delta a \leq 3$ , and  $-3 \leq \Delta b \leq 3$ .

43. (New): A formulation according to claim 1, wherein the amount of said pigment particles in said formulation is 0.1 to 70% by weight, based on the total weight of the formulation.

44. (New): A formulation for topical applications comprising;  
pigment particles obtainable by agitating a suspension comprising one or more inorganic pigments and an antimicrobial compound, in order to reduce undesirable side-effects caused by microorganisms, wherein said pigment particles with antimicrobial compound are prepared by agitating said suspension at a temperature between 10°C and 60°C, and wherein said antimicrobial compound is silver halogenide, silver nitrate, silver sulfate, a silver carboxylate, silver benzoate, silver carbonate, silver citrate, silver lactate, silver salicylate, a copper oxide, copper sulfide, copper nitrate, copper carbonate, copper sulfate, a copper halogenide, a copper carboxylate, zinc oxide, zinc sulfide, zinc silicate, zinc acetate, zinc chloride, zinc nitrate, zinc sulfate, zinc gluconate, zinc citrate, zinc phosphate, zinc propionate, zinc salicylate, zinc lactate, zinc oxalate, zinc iodate, zinc iodide or combinations thereof; and

one or more cosmetically or dermatologically suitable vehicles.